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START SCRAP-METAL DRIVE

DECREE SCRAP-METAL COLLECTION WEEK -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 12 May 51

The Hungarian National Economic Council has declared the week of 15 May to be Scrap-Metal Collection Week.

More and more nonferrous metals, primarily copper, as well as iron and steel, are needed to realize the aims of the Five-Year Plan. Even though iron and steel production has risen rapidly in Hungary, it is falling behind rising requirements. The construction of Dunapentele, the power station at Inota, the hydraulic works at Tiszalok, and the Budapest subway, require large amounts of metals.

Nonferrous metals are imported from the West for the most part. They are expensive, and the quantity imported is insufficient. By conducting a thorough search, large quantities of nonferrous metal scrap can be collected. This will save valuable foreign exchange, in addition to supplying part of Hungary's non-ferrous metal requirements.

Immense quantities of scrap iron can be found throughout the country. Next to the Ozd Works, there are mountains of scrap iron which have been deposited there for decades. The metal is slowly being mixed with slag and soon it will be buried under layers of earth. Some 50,000 tons of scrap iron could be cleaned and utilized in steel production. Diosgyor faces a chronic scrap-iron shortage, while 20,000 tons can be found next to its tar distillery.

A thorough search of residential areas should be made as well. A small quantity of scrap iron, 50 to 60 kilograms, is sufficient for the production of one quintal of steel.

SCRAP-METAL COLLECTION A SUCCESS -- Budapest, Nepszava, 19 May 51

During the first 3 days of Scrap-Metal Collection Week, the Iron- and Scrap-Metal Enterprise collected 1,212 tons of scrap iron and 205 tons of other scrap metal in Budapest. In the country, the enterprise accepted 628 tons of scrap iron and 29.5 tons of other scrap metal.

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On 17 May, the third day of Scrap-Metal Collection Week, the enterprise collected 57.65 tons of metal scrap, 348.8 tons of forged-iron scrap, 166.04 tons of sheet-metal scrap, and 101 tons of cast-iron scrap in Budapest. Good results were reported in the provinces as well on that day.

However, certain enterprises lagged behind. The MAVAG (Steel and Machine Works of the Hungarian State Railways), the Gyor Wagon Works, the Obuda Shipyard, and Siemens were lagging behind. In certain plants, this is due to insufficient work and organization, while in other plants failure is due to the lack of cooperation on the part of management. In various branches of industry, especially in the construction industry, the plant committees have done little to make the drive a success.

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